

Message Text

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ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 DEAE-00 JUSE-00 SY-05 FBIE-00

L-03 SNM-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EB-07 CG-00 DOTE-00

/035 W

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P 101615Z SEP 75

FM AMCONSUL CALI

TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1539

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

UNCLAS CALI 0475

BOGOTA ALSO FOR DEA; CARACAS FOR LEGATT

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CPAS CASC PN CO (BEEBE, ROMAND DALE, AKA KENDON, CLIFFORD
STEPHEN) (BEEBE, KAREN SCHMIDT)

SUBJ: CASE OF ROMAND AND KAREN BEEBE

REF: PANAMA 5528; CALI A-12 TO DEPARTMENT OF APRIL 17, 1975

1. THE YACHT "AMERICUS" HAS A LONG AND CONVOLUTED HISTORY WITH PORT AUTHORITIES IN BUENAVENTURA. IN JUNE OF 1974 THE COLOMBIAN COAST GUARD THWARTED AN ATTEMPT BY THE YACHT'S OWNER, RICHARD LIPPINCOTT, TO SLIP OUT OF COLOMBIAN WATERS WITHOUT PROPER CLEARANCE AND WITHOUT SETTLING CONSIDERABLE OUTSTANDING BILLS AND PORT FEES IN BUENAVENTURA. SINCE OCTOBER, 1974, THE CONSULATE HAS HAD NO COMMUNICATION FROM LIPPINCOTT REGARDING THE STATUS OF THE YACHT, WHICH REMAINED AT BUENAVENTURA. THE PORT CAPTAIN OF BUENAVENTURA HAS NOW INFORMED THE CONSULATE THAT THE "AMERICUS" CLEARED UP ITS LEGAL PROBLEMS AND LEFT BUENAVENTURA WITH PROPER AUTHORIZATION ON JULY 21, 1975. LIPPINCOTT, WHO LIVES AT 22122 WOOD ISLAND LANE, HUNTINGTON BEACH, CALIFORNIA 92646, WAS STILL LISTED AS THE YACHT'S OWNER.

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2. FYI: THE "AMERICUS" WAS MOORED AT BUENAVENTURA FOR MORE THAN TWO YEARS, WHILE ITS CREWMEMBERS MADE MANY TRIPS FROM BUENAVENTURA TO OTHER PARTS OF COLOMBIA. THE BUENAVENTURA PORT CAPTAIN ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION EXPRESSED TO THE CONSULATE HIS CONCERN OVER THE CASUAL USE BY THE CREW OF MARIJUANA, AND STATED HIS SUSPICION THAT THE BOAT MIGHT POSSIBLY BE USED FOR NARCOTICS SMUGGLING. THE CONSULATE HAS NO CONCRETE INFORMATION REGARDING THIS POSSIBILITY, BUT SUGGESTS THE MOVEMENTS OF THE "AMERICUS" FOLLOWING ITS JULY 21 DEPARTURE FROM BUENAVENTURA MIGHT BEAR ATTENTION FROM APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES.

3. BEEBE, WHO HAD SERVED AS CAPTAIN OF THE "AMERICUS" ON ITS JOURNEY FROM CALIFORNIA TO BUENAVENTURA, CAME TO THE ATTENTION OF THE CONSULATE DURING THE POST'S REPORTING ON THE BOAT'S LEGAL PROBLEMS. HIS WIFE, KAREN SCHMIDT BEEBE, IS THE SUBJECT OF CALI'S A-12 TO THE DEPARTMENT OF APRIL 17, 1975 IN WHICH HER CHARGES OF BRUTALITY AGAINST CALI POLICE, GROWING OUT OF AN UNRELATED INCIDENT, AS WELL AS HER FAILURE TO PURSUE THE CHARGES, ARE DETAILED. KERR

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